

Saint Mary's College of California

Saint Mary's Digital Commons

Sustainability Report

12-28-2015

2nd Annual Sustainability Report

Saint Mary's College of California

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.stmarys-ca.edu/sustainability-report>



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#), and the [Sustainability Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Saint Mary's College of California, "2nd Annual Sustainability Report" (2015). *Sustainability Report*. 5.
<https://digitalcommons.stmarys-ca.edu/sustainability-report/5>

This Issue is brought to you for free and open access by Saint Mary's Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Sustainability Report by an authorized administrator of Saint Mary's Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@stmarys-ca.edu.

Sustainability at Saint Mary's College



2nd ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

December 28, 2015



OUR VISION

In fidelity to our educational mission and Catholic principles, Saint Mary's College is committed to leadership in fostering environmental literacy, modeling a culture of sustainability, and creating an equitable future for all of humankind in harmony with nature.

The animating vision of a more sustainable college cannot be achieved without considerable creativity, innovation, flexibility, and energy. To achieve our sustainability objectives, we must:

- Engage our community at all levels. Successful implementation of sustainability objectives will require the initiative to become a stated priority for the Board of Trustees and senior administrative leadership. Simultaneously, we must work to ensure the ethic of conservation permeates the larger community;
- Conduct a transparent evaluation and planning process that defines and weighs tradeoffs and sacrifices in a deliberate and conscientious fashion;
- Take full advantage of the College's substantial intellectual resources — our own students, staff, and faculty will generate some of the best solutions;
- Link our work to the Saint Mary's mission, recognizing that conducting our work and ourselves sustainably is consistent with the College's aims and ideals;
- Assign clear measures to institutional and individual accountability, ensuring that the progress toward our stated goals is regularly and accurately assessed and articulated to the community we aim to serve.

OUR STORY

Since Saint Mary's College adopted sustainability goals in 2007 and created the existing Sustainability Committee in 2012, the college has been steadfast in advancing its impact in sustainability. Most notably:

- 2013** Signed the Saint Francis Pledge, a commitment to live our faith by protecting God's creation.
- 2014** Received a Bronze rating on the Sustainability, Tracking, Assessment + Rating (STARS) system, the leading tool for sustainability in higher education.
- 2015** Hired our 1st full-time sustainability staff & student interns.
- 2016** Anticipated award of Silver in STARS and reintroduction of the Green Living and Learning Community in our residence halls.



OUR HIGHLIGHTS

Major accomplishments since the last report (2014) have been achieved and include:



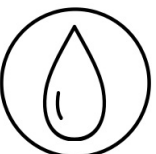
1. We hired our first full-time sustainability officer, who strategizes and implements sustainability programs across the curriculum, community, and facilities.
2. A waste diversion plan (2015-2018) developed in partnership with Facilities Services, Sodexo, and ABLE is in place, including infrastructural updates and educational outreach. Early results show significant progress in diversion.
3. Student programming and projects are on the rise with the creation of two student groups, the Green Gaels and Waste-Defense Team, and several student interns.

Data drives our sustainability plans and actions.

OUR NUMBERS



By the Fall of 2015, we diverted over
50% of waste from the landfill (82% construction waste)



As compared to our 2013 baseline, we have reduced
water by 32% (9+ million gallons)



We are an EPA Green Power Partner, as we have offset
100% of our electricity via Renewable Energy Credits

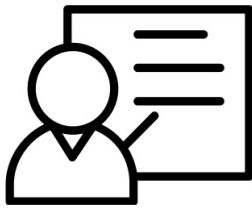


We produced over
3,500 lbs of food onsite & purchased 39% local/certified food

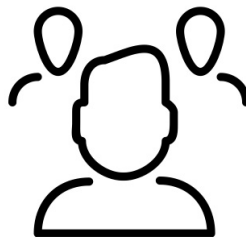


We engaged more than
800 students in programs outside the classroom

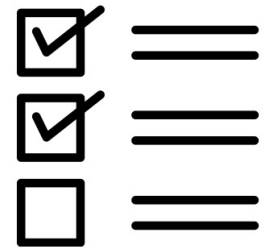
NEW AT SMC



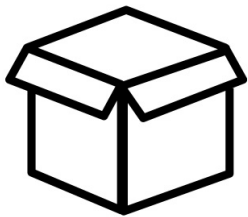
Sustainability was taught at Freshman Year Advising Cohorts



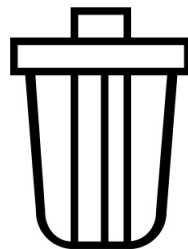
Students discussed Pope Francis' Laudato Si' & how sustainability fits with our Mission



Freshman completed a Sustainability Literacy assessment



In Fall 2015, we completed our first Green Move-In



All food facilities now offer recycling and composting on campus



Hydration stations are being installed across campus

TESTIMONIALS

Our accomplishments are reliant on our partnerships with Facilities Services, Sodexo, ABLE, Student Life, our faculty, staff, and students.



"From the Pope's encyclical, to President Donahue's vision, to being an active support for a Lasallian community; it has been great to see the enhancements in sustainability and to be a part of those enhancements as relates to facilities. The staff has been engaged and an integral part of many of these enhancements, and for that I thank them. "

-Matt Fitzpatrick, Project Manager, ABLE Custodial Services

"The actions taken on campus this past year alone towards sustainability have created more than just an impact on the amount of waste diverted, but have promoted a movement on campus towards a more sustainable and thoughtful community that will follow for years to come."

-Esha Naik, Biology student, '17



OUR PLANS

In accordance with the Strategic Plan's call to "raise the visibility of how the campus community can support sustainability efforts" (Goal 3A), we will continue to work over the next year to build a culture of sustainability across our campus and curriculum.

In the coming year, our emphasis will be in:



Building Stewardship within Students, Staff, and Faculty

A successful sustainability program arises with the engagement of multiple, diverse stakeholders. In the coming year, we look to enrich and expand our resources for:

- a) Staff through our Staff Ambassador program and Green Events training;
- b) Faculty through course development initiatives;
- c) Students through co-curricular programming, classroom offerings and professional opportunities.



Establishing Sustainability as a Value Add within Decision Making

Sustainability has a business case. We endeavor to build sustainability into decisions within procurement and operations in an effort to realize cost savings, both economically and environmentally. Concurrently, we will aim to build out the budget for sustainability using savings and identified grants.

The impact of these initiatives enhance the college's socioeconomic commitment to the Common Good and towards engaging our local and global communities.

OUR SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Jane Camarillo (Chair)
Professor Aaron Sachs
Professor Alice Baldrige
Professor Andrew Wilson
Bill Sullivan
Brian Foley
Collin Pugh
Professor Gemma Niermann
Jennifer Pigza
Jim Sciuto
Joseph Kehoe
Julie Welch

Professor Judith White
Lance Hourany
Professor Marie Pagliarni
Marshall Welch
Matt Carroll
Michael Flood
Professor Pamela Michael
Riley Smith
Roy Wensley
Safa Toma
Scott Logan
Professor Steve Woolpert

Students:
Anna Gibbons
Cody Carefoot
Esha Naik
Kavyasri Maddali
Kelly Kellner
Maggie Lettire
Morgan Faulkner
Nicholas Kennen
Paula Dulce